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Import Recommendation of Hort Products for First Half of 2013

Report Categories:

Agricultural Situation

Approved By:

Ali Abdi

Prepared By:

Fahwani Y. Rangkuti and Jonn Slette

Report Highlights:

During January 17 - 25, 2013, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) accepted applications for Import Recommendations of Horticulture Products (RIPH). Local importers of horticultural products were eligible to submit RIPH applications for 10 varieties of fresh horticultural commodities and frozen potatoes for the first six months of 2013. Importers of processed foods derived from horticultural products can submit RIPH applications for the entire calendar year. Post sources indicate that MOA will announce the RIPHs after a planned revision of MOA Regulation No 60/2012. At the time of publication, no RIPHs have been issued to any importers and it remains unclear when MOA will actually issue the documents.

General Information:

Over January 17 - 25, 2013, the MOA's Head of Plant Variety Protection and Agriculture Licensing (PPVT-PP) accepted applications for RIPHs from local fruit and vegetable importers. Ms. Sri Kuntarsih, Director General of Agricultural Processing and Marketing, the MOA agency responsible for issuing RIPHs, noted to the local press that they received over 4,000 RIPH applications from 131 applicants. This represents an increase of 135 percent in submitted applications over the previous application period, which occurred in October 2012. Reportedly, MOA will issue the RIPH to importers after they revise MOA Regulation No. 60/2012. Post sources indicate the RIPH announcement may occur during the last week of February, which is significantly later than original planned. The delay may be due to staff turnover within the broader Directorate General of Agricultural Processing and Marketing (PPHP). Moreover, the issuance of RIPHs for horticultural products may be slower following the MOA's recent high-profile graft scandal involving the issuance of allocations for imported beef. Indonesian horticulture importers need the MOA issued RIPH to apply for the actual import permits from the Ministry of Trade.

According to media reports, the MOA allocations for imported fresh fruits & vegetables for the first six months of 2013 are as follows:

No.	Horticulture Products	Volume (Metric Tons)
1.	Onions	30,000
2.	Shallots	60,000
3.	Garlic	150,000
4.	Oranges	15,000
5.	Mandarins	90,000
6.	Lemons	1,000
7.	Table grapes	21,000
8.	Apples	100,000
9.	Longan fruit	25,000
10.	Frozen potatoes	39,209
	Fresh potatoes	5,994

The documents required by the MOA for issuing an RIPH for fresh horticulture products, as stated in the technical requirements of Regulation 60/2012, include good agricultural practices (GAP) information, farm registration, and packing house registration. The regulation stated that technical requirement documents must be in Bahasa Indonesia. However, in the first semester 2013 RIPH application form, the technical requirement documents in English are allowed.

In September 2012, the MOA accepted RIPH applications, at which point they required the following documents in Bahasa Indonesia:

- a. Producer registration information;
- b. Packing house registration information;
- c. Implementation of GAP and/or food safety system;

- d. Phytosanitary certificate, or a letter which indicates the ability to provide a valid phytosanitary certificate from the country of origin;
- e. Time of harvest; and
- f. Warehouse storage time.

MOA Regulation 60/2012 can be found at the following [link](#).